

THE KALIDA VENTURE.

KALIDA, OHIO.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 1853.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS.

State Ticket.

For Governor—WILLIAM MEDILL.
Lieutenant Governor—LESTER BLISS.
Supreme Judge—THOMAS W. BARTLEY.
Treasurer of State—JOHN G. BRESLIN.
Secretary of State—WILLIAM TREVITT.
Member of P. Works—WAYNE GRISWOLD.
Attorney General—GEORGE W. MCCOOK.

County Ticket.

For Sheriff—JOHN B. FRUCHEY.
For Commissioner—CLARK H. RICE.

Gen. Gilson's Defence.

We conceived that this man and his course had passed from under our criticism. But he has published a justification which will be found in our paper, and we must needs take up the matter again.

1. The Law was very incomprehensible to him. He was "at a loss" in the matter. We think he ought to have understood the intent of the Legislature well. For years by a series of acts the avowed design had been to favor "actual settlers." By oaths of settlement, &c., an effort was made to exclude the speculator from any special favor or privilege. He could only have the Lands at their full value—the settler at reduced price. This no one of the most ordinary intelligence in Northwestern Ohio failed to comprehend; and Mr. Gilson, as State Land officer, should be stopped from making the plea of ignorance. It ill befits any man to cling to an office and plead incompetence and want of understanding for the discharge of its duties.

In 1850, complaint having been made of abuse, it was thought necessary to change the officers in the management of the Lands and put restrictions on the system. The Legislature chose to trust more to the integrity of the officer for the necessary correction of the matters complained of than by added legal restriction. Mr. Gilson urged the passage and hurried through the law under which he was appointed to defeat competition as speedily as possible and secure the office. One Legislative body almost unanimously recommended him by personal recommendation, and he was at once appointed by the Governor when the law was passed, undoubted trust in his ability and integrity to carry out the spirit and meaning of the law was had on almost all hands. He has violated the spirit of the law wantonly and has not even observed the letter of its instructions.

2. Not comprehending the intent of the Legislature Gen. Gilson took legal advice, so he says. He took "good counsel." We doubt it, and want the names of these "good counsel" for inspection. But why did he take this counsel? The Auditor of State's advice, the Attorney General's opinion would at once have relieved him of doubt, and of responsibility—why were they never consulted? Why for months was nothing breathed to them of these difficulties? Because the advice of the General's private advisers suited better than that of honest government officials whose duty it was to give it, and because he had a desire to do the wrong, and did not seek the best counsel.

3. Mr. Gilson says that from these "good counsel" he learned the law made "no limit to quantity" of lands to each individual. But the land, at reduced prices, was expressly limited to "actual settlers, who might each settle one tract," and no more. Somehow or other there was something like limit about this but Mr. Gilson, shrewd as he is, could not comprehend it. Who can believe this?

4. Authority had a high value with Mr. Gilson. He followed Congressional precedents. Humbug! The State of Ohio granted her lands at 1/4th of their value to actual settlers. The United States Land Granting Department always sold theirs to the highest bidder, until they could not get a purchaser, when they sell the refuse at a stipulated price. How was it Mr. Gilson in his search for precedents never looked at the State Laws before passed on this subject to inform him? Why did he prefer a usage having no force, similitude or connection with the matter? Like the Scotch Jury who first returned the prisoner guilty, and then went into enquiry as to the evidence to justify their verdict, so Gilson did the act, and the excuse, lame as it is, was the after thought. He better comprehends the relations of laws than himself to hold that usages intended to sustain the most contradictory policy should direct his discharge of duty. The U. S. Laws express

no solicitude about "actual settlement." The Ohio State Laws make it the primary condition and object of sale. And this was so strange Mr. Gilson could not comprehend the distinction! Why should so dull a man get farther favor if he is not pleading stolidity to cover dishonesty.

5. Indeed the General's comprehension is very poor indeed, to justify his treating the "actual settler," as capable of settling 12 different tracts at once, in which case actual settlement was utterly and absolutely impossible and the language of the oath nonsense, he pleads as justification of his acts the Law of limitation, passed January 1853, after these fraudulent sales had taken place. We really do not understand how it is so. Abuse by Gen. Gilson had taken place of an existing law, and the Legislature pass an act to prevent similar abuse in future, and to render it as far as laws could do impossible. Does the passage of the Law show that the Legislature approved of his construction of its provisions. Not at all. But the reverse. The Law's enactment condemns him, and its enactment will not help him, nor excuse his entertaining Johnson's claim for six thousand acres, Cheney's claim for several thousands, John Paul's, Colby's, Sprague's, &c., &c., and so constraining the law as would most favor these men, no one of whom, he well knew ever designed becoming an "actual settler," while the land sales at reduced prices were expressly limited to "ACTUAL SETTLERS," AND TO THEM ALONE.

The sale of one "tract" to such men he might have justified. But who can justify the permitting six, eight, ten or seventeen oaths for as many "tracts." Was it possible that a man could become an actual settler on more than one tract? Why did the State's officer then if he designed to do his duty as an honest man, seek the excuse of legal sophistry to do what every man of sense cannot but perceive to be a palpable violation of every intent of the law? The only excuse he can plead for his course is that he wanted to do a little legislation on his own account. He thought that this Legislative care for the poor man was a very foolish affair, and he could by construction mend it greatly to the advantage of himself and friends. And he did it.

Was it possible that the following oath which every settler was required to take could deceive an officer to allow a single individual—for himself and family—to swear he would actually settle in four or five places in four or five counties? Could any officer be misled as to the fraudulent intent of such several and distinct oaths?

The State of Ohio — County, ss: Before me, —, personally appeared —, of lawful age, and made oath in due form of law that it is bona fide his intention to enter upon and improve within twelve months from this date, (the description of land), and that he has not purchased said land for the purpose of speculation merely, but for the purpose of securing a permanent home for himself and family.

(Signed)
Sworn to and subscribed before me, &c. Since his letter appeared Cheney and others, we hear, have surrendered their purchases to the State, receiving back the money paid. This single fact speaks more loudly of the rottenness of the whole affair than anything we can add. Their honest rights they would never have yielded. There was policy in giving up a claim which to retain was infamy and which to have connived at creating must forever damn the integrity of the officer possessed of no higher moral sense.

The Defence Democrat has permitted Gilson in his letter to represent us as actuated by improper motives. Will he give both sides. Justice, courtesy and fair dealing require this at his hands.

Tennessee Election.

NASHVILLE, August 8. Returns from 24 counties are in, and the Democrats claim a gain of 1000; the Whigs admit a loss of 200. Result for Governor doubtful. The Whigs so far have gained a member of Congress.

Governor of Tennessee.

NASHVILLE, August 9th.—The election of Johnson for Governor is conceded by the whigs. In the Legislature the whig majority is large.

North Carolina Election.

PHILADELPHIA, August 8. Ashe and Ruffin, Democrats, are elected in the 3d and 2d districts, and Rogers, Whig, beats Venable and Lewis 69 votes.

Wallachia and Moldavia are the only provinces of Turkey that lie north of the Danube. They pay tribute to the Sultan, but are in reality under the protection of the Czar. Their government is Turkish, but their language, customs, and religion are Russian.

Canal Land Sales.

The following communication from Gen. GILSON, in relation to the sale at the State Land Office on the 3d of January last, we take from the *Williams Democrat* of the 6th inst.:

Defence Democrat.

MR. HUNTER: I had not intended a reply to any of the charges made against me by the *Kalida Venture*, *Lima Argus*, *North West*, &c., until requested by an editorial in your paper of 8th inst. to give my side of the picture. This I will do to gratify my friends—my opponents have no wish to be convinced of any man's honesty, and of course they have no claim to any explanation from me. Every act of mine in relation to the sale of the State lands, is matter of record; but lest your readers should not be acquainted with the facts, I will briefly recapitulate. As to alleged frauds, with which I am charged, I will say that for some days previous to the 2d of January, 1853, (the day on which the reduction in price was to take place,) I was aware that there would be many applications for the State lands on the first day of the reduction in price. By the act of April 16th, 1852, there was to be a reduction of seventy-five per cent, to actual settlers, which act was to take effect from and after the first day of January, 1853. Said law required every person making application for land under this act to file an affidavit, that it was his or her intention to enter upon and improve the land within twelve months, and that he or she did not enter the land for speculation merely, but for the purpose of securing a home for himself or herself and family; and no limit as to quantity, as had been under former laws; and had this clause been in the above named act, I would have had no trouble in managing the sales of first day of reduction; and being somewhat at a loss to know by what rule to be governed, I advised with men experienced in land office practice, and some three or four of our best attorneys, and those whom I believe had no interest in the sale, and there was but one opinion as to the law and my duty, and that was that I could not prevent any person from entering as much land as he would swear he would improve, &c., as required by law, and I was governed by good counsel in the matter; and relative to selling at auction, of which so much has been said in some quarters, I was governed by the same rule which I understand obtains in our courts. In the absence of statute law applicable to the case, they take the decisions of the higher tribunals. The best guide I could find under the circumstances was an act of Congress approved April 24, 1820, entitled an act making further provisions for the sale of the public lands, the 6th and last section of said act provides: "That where two or more persons shall apply for the purchase, at private sale of the public lands, at the same time the Register shall determine the preference, by forthwith offering the tract to the highest bidder." Now by this rule I was governed, and confined myself strictly to it, which I could not perceive would give any reason for dissatisfaction, either from the sale, or the purchasers, for the result was the applicants were willing to bid, which got up quite a spirited competition, and the lands were sold for several thousand dollars above the entry price; and I leave it to those attending the sale to decide whether the sale was fairly conducted or not.

It has been claimed that a strict construction of the law required a limit sold to one individual. To such constructionists, and particularly to the makers of that law, who thus construe it, I will refer to the fact that the legislature then in session did on the 12th day of January, 1853, amend the law, limiting the quantity to one quarter section. This amendment, if I am not mistaken, passed both Houses without a negative vote. Now if such were the law as passed April 16th, 1852, what necessity for the amendments?

I have thus given you a brief statement of the facts in this case, with the reasons which governed my conduct in the transaction, and whether my action was correct or otherwise it has become a matter of history beyond the reach of myself or those who misrepresent me, seek to injure my reputation with my fellow citizens. The whole subject has been before the Legislature and that body found no cause for censure in my course, save in one single point in relation to the manner of conducting the sale where there were many applicants at the same time. The Legislature thought the preference might have been settled by lot or in some other way, whereas the Legislature at the time of the sale having never made such a decision I could not be governed by it, and followed the law of Congress before referred to. If such an opinion had been expressed by the Legislature before the sale, I should have been relieved from much anxiety and doubt in relation to my duty. I acted according to my best judgment in the matter, and if I erred, I think there were circumstances to induce the error.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
your obedient servant,
R. H. GILSON.

Andrew Johnson, Democratic candidate for Governor in Tennessee, advocates the following amendments to the constitution of the United States: 1. To elect the President and Vice President by a direct vote of the people. 2. To elect our Senators in Congress in the same manner. 3. To limit the term of the appointment of the Judges of the Supreme Court to eight or twelve years, and to change their present mode of appointment.—*Hamilton Telegraph*.

RAIL-ROAD DISASTERS.

PHILADELPHIA, August 10.—The train, via Amboy, from New York, and the 2 o'clock train from this city, came in collision near Amboy last evening. The way train was driven through the ladies' car, and it is reported nine ladies, four children and three or four men were killed, but the accounts are vague so far. Later reports reduce the number killed to two ladies, a nurse and child and two men. About twenty are wounded including many with broken legs, one of the men killed was returning from California.

The following is a statement made by one of the passengers:
"I reached here by the Amboy boat from the scene of disaster. I was in one of the cars which was crushed, and fell through the floor upon my back, without receiving the slightest injury. Two cars in each train were completely broken. The accident was caused by the train from New York running with great speed and out of time."

New York, August 11.—The night express train to Boston, on New Haven Railway was thrown off the track; near Port Chester, last night. Locomotive and baggage car smashed; engineer killed and fireman badly injured; none of the passengers were hurt.

BALTIMORE, August 11.—Three passenger cars of the western train, on the B. & O. Railway, were thrown off the track when starting from Cameron's station this afternoon. The switch was unfastened, but the engine and baggage cars passed over, when the switch fell, throwing the balance of the train over an embankment ten feet high, 9 persons were slightly injured.

BALTIMORE, August 12.—The train from Cumberland to Baltimore ran off the track seven miles above Bkly.—The engine, tender, baggage car and smoking car were smashed—fireman killed and engineer badly hurt. Passenger escaped without injury.

Boston, August 12.—A collision took place this morning on the Worcester Road, near Boston, between the regular train to the city and an excursion train coming down. When our reporter left 15 dead bodies had been taken from the ruins. Both of the engines were smashed. The engineers jumped from the trains, and were badly injured. The President of the road, Mr. Taft, was on the regular train, and escaped with a slight injury. The collision is said to have taken place in consequence of a difference of two minutes in the watches of the engineers.

Riot and Murder on the Central Railway.

BALTIMORE, August 9. The Constable of Washington township having a warrant against a man who was working on the Central Railroad, in that township, proceeded to make the arrest this morning, accompanied by Mr. Ward, a respectable citizen. In attempting to arrest the man, a portion of the laborers attacked the Constable and Ward, and beat the latter so severely that his recovery is deemed hopeless. The Constable escaped. When Ward was first knocked down, he drew a revolver and fired three balls, all of which took effect, and one of the Irish laborers was shot through the body, producing a mortal wound. Another Irishman was shot through the shoulder, and another was slightly wounded and made his escape. When the facts were made known here the Sheriff proceeded to the place, and has succeeded in arresting three of the assassins. It is stated ten or fifteen were engaged in the assault on Mr. Ward. The Irishman who was shot through the body and Ward were alive when the Sheriff left, but both of them, it is thought, will not live over the night.

New York Items.

New York, August 10.—The Boston and New Haven express train was thrown off the track last night. The engineer was instantly killed.

Yesterday P. M. a collision took place on the Camden and Amboy R. R., between the Philadelphia and New York trains; five passengers instantly killed; thirty or forty more badly injured. Both trains are said to be out of time. The passengers held an indignation meeting and denounced the Company.

The Herald has information from Cuba that a demand has been made by the British Government for a mixed commission authorizing to search the states and places in Cuba for new importations of Africans.

The Spanish Government had complied, and the Captain General had received the official commission from Spain. The agreement also provides for the emancipation of slaves at the end of 50 years.

Chief Justice Jones, formerly Chancellor, died at Long Island to day at an advanced age.

The steamship Merlin sailed at noon for Bermuda and St. Thomas.

Asa Holden, the old revolutionary soldier who was present at the execution of Major Andre, died in New York city on Wednesday, aged 91 years. He was a native of Sudbury, and it is said fired the first gun at the battle of Lexington.

The Governor of Arkansas has appointed R. W. Johnson to the seat made vacant in the United States Senate by the appointment of Solomon Borland Minister to Central America.

Arrival of the Africa.

New York, August 11. The Africa arrived this morning with Liverpool dates to the 30th July.

The Sultan had signed the agreement dictated by France and England. Austria was to send an Ambassador to St. Petersburg. The Porte's protest against the occupation of the Principality is temporarily written.

A Hungarian, who escaped from Bay-ront went aboard Lloyd's Austrian Steamer, where he was arrested by the Captain as an Austrian subject, he jumped overboard, swam off, and applied to the American Consul for protection, who gave it, and compelled the Captain to give up the refugee's wife and child.

Italy is in a state of feverish excitement; especially in the Roman Territories. There were symptoms of an insurrection at Bologna, nominally on account of the high price of bread. Ravenna is reported in a state of siege. Numerous assassinations had taken place, among others the Secretary of the Republic of San Marino.

Rome is in a very excited state; it was rumored that several of the patriot leaders were in the city; the police was active in endeavoring to discover them. The export of bread stuffs had been prohibited at Ancona.

Concha has written an expose of his administration in Cuba and asks permission to publish it.

The Costa affair at Smyrna remained unchanged.

There is no news from France and nothing of interest from England.

From China.

PHILADELPHIA, August 13.

A despatch received at London just before the sailing of the Africa, stated that the rebels had taken Amoy after a severe fight, and were threatening Canton.

Frightful Mortality in New Orleans.

CHARLESTON, S. C., August 3. A despatch from New Orleans says the total deaths during forty-eight hours ending Monday evening the 1st inst., were 290, of which 253 were from yellow fever.

The Washington Union justifies Commodore Ingraham in his course in the Costa affair. It says that he could not have done less than he did do.

GEORGE N. SANDERS.—The telegraph says that this gentleman's appointment as Consul to London has been decided upon, and that he will depart with his commission about the close of the month. General FIERCE has done an excellent thing in making this appointment. Mr. SANDER'S Democratic Review exercised more influence for Mr. FIERCE's election than any other single agency in the whole canvass. It drew out into a distinct form the radical element of the country, and brought all its fiery force to bear in behalf of our candidates. Under the lead of the Review, the young Democracy rallied, because that able, bold and fearlessly conducted journal presented distinctly to their minds the policy, both foreign and domestic, to which Young America had long aspired. The appointment of Mr. SANDERS is a token of Gen. FIERCE'S appreciation of power possessed by the young Democracy, on whose straightforward, generous and energetic support the administration is bound strongly to rely in any grave emergency. The appointment of Mr. SANDERS is a recognition of this fact, and will be hailed with general gratification.—*Statesman*.

DECISION IN A LIQUOR CASE.—Judge Manchester of Providence, has given an important decision in a liquor case, in which the witness who swore to the sale testified that he purchased the liquor for the purpose of having the defendant convicted. The Judge decided that, upon the principle of law, no man should be convicted of crime upon the uncorroborated testimony of a man who would go upon the stand and swear exultingly that he had induced the defendant to commit the crime for the purpose of having an opportunity of swearing against him—that it took away the safeguard which the law has thrown around the citizen for his protection and security of a fair and impartial trial when accused of crime. He adjudged the defendant not guilty, and ordered him to be discharged.

THE DEAD ALIVE.—A little girl ten years of age, says the Norfolk News, the daughter of one of our most esteemed citizens, was taken sick a few days ago, and on Sunday evening, to the poignant grief of her parents, apparently died.

The usual preparations were made, the room darkened, and the body enclosed in a shroud, with the intention of burying it on Monday afternoon. Monday morning the apparently dead girl revived, and terribly frightened at the situation in which she found herself, with her cries alarmed the household. She is since, we learn, doing well, and our readers may imagine the feelings of the family from this astonishing incident.

We notice that in the strong Whig counties of this State, the Whigs, as heretofore, are bringing out the regular old line Whig Tickets. It is only in Democratic or doubtful counties that you find Whiggery endeavoring to humbug the masses with "People's Tickets." They never resort to this game in counties where they have the power.—*O. Patriot*.

The Bill in British Parliament for inspecting Nunneries is lost.

GOVERNOR MEDILL.—The Ohio State Democrat, says truly, and says it with knowledge based upon long personal acquaintance with Col. MEDILL, now holding the office of Governor, that he has been tried and never found wanting. As a member of the State Legislature—as a Speaker of the popular branch thereof,—as a member of Congress,—Assistant Postmaster General, and Commissioner of Indian Affairs,—as President of the Constitutional Convention, and as Lieutenant Governor of the State,—Col. MEDILL has ever been the same straightforward Democrat and attentive officer.—With business talents inferior to none, added to high and commanding talents, we hesitate not to say that he will make one of the best Executive Officers Ohio ever had. That, on the second Tuesday of October next, he will be elected to the high and responsible station he now fills, is a fact admitted so to be by his political enemies.—*Ohio Patriot*.

SECRETARY OF LEGATION AT LONDON.—It was industriously circulated a short time since that T. BIGLOW LAWRENCE, the present Secretary of Legation, would be retained in that office. We have no hesitation in saying that every good Democrat will feel unqualified satisfaction by the falsifying of this report. The appointment of Mr. SICKLES of New York, settles this matter. Mr. LAWRENCE will be relieved by a Democrat who sympathizes with the people of Europe, and is for the revolutionary party. LAWRENCE's father disgraced the Republic while Minister, by flattery the aristocracy on all occasions; and reviling the memory of that noble patriot WAT TYLER. The son is not a whit more of a real republican than the father.—*Statesman*.

To hear some Whig Editors prate about "corruption" the uninformed would hardly suppose that the late Whig Administration had literally swindled and robbed the General Government out of millions upon millions of dollars. Talk of "corruption," indeed! Why the Federal Whig party was founded in "corruption"—conceived in sin and brought forth in iniquity. Corruption is one of the fundamental principles of the Whig party, and is the only one, as TOM CORWIN and other huge Galphins will readily affirm, that Whiggery has succeeded in carrying into practical operation.—*Ohio Patriot*.

When we read the lives of distinguished men in any department, we find them almost always celebrated for the amount of labor they could perform. Demosthenes, Julius Caesar, Henry the Fourth of France, Lord Bacon, Sir Isaac Newton, Franklin, Washington, Napoleon,—different as they were in their intellectual and moral qualities,—were all renowned as hard workers. We read how many days they could support the fatigue of a march; how early they rose; how late they watched; how many hours they spent in the field, in the cabinet, in the court, how many secretaries they kept employed; in short how hard they worked.

The Ohio Patriot calls attention to the fact that in the strong Whig counties of this State, the Whigs, as heretofore, are bringing out the regular old line Whig Tickets. It is only in Democratic or doubtful counties that you find Whiggery endeavoring to humbug the masses with "People's Tickets." They never resort to this game in counties where they have the power.—*Hamilton Telegraph*.

In the course of a discussion in Massachusetts Convention, a good deal was said about the licentiousness of the press, whereupon Colonel Schouler, of Boston, made the following remark:—"A great deal has been said about the licentiousness of the press. Now, sir, I happen to have had a great deal to do with the public press, and I must say that the most licentious part of my experience with the public press has been in defence of men in public stations."

"We have ever found," says an American paper, "that blacksmiths are, more or less, given to vice. Carpenters, for the most part, speak plainly, but they will chisel when they can get a chance. Not unfrequently they are bawls, and often annoy one with their old saws."

James McKenzie, Esq., editor of the *Kalida Venture*, a candidate for Representative in his district. We hope he will be nominated. He possesses abilities which eminently fit him for such a position, and would make him an ornament of the House.—*Lima Argus*.

They have at present at the Gosport Navy Yard a quantity of water which was obtained from Lake Drummond, in the Dismal Swamp, some ten years since. It continues as fresh and pure as when first taken from the Lake, and will retain the juniper taste that characterizes this water.

There has been a fight on Beaver Island between the Mormons and other classes. The island is a county of Michigan, the Mormons are the most numerous, and have organized, and when the Mormon Sheriff went with his men, unarmed, to summon three jurors, the other folks fired upon and wounded six of them.

TRUE BILL.—A true bill was found by the Grand Jury, against James Collier, Collector of Customs at San Francisco under General Taylor's administration, for feloniously using \$400,000 of the public money.